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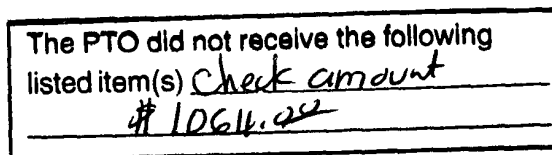
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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

TIMOTHY E. NEWHOLM
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July 7, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Re: Utility Patent Application Transmittal
Inventor(s): Weinfurter et al.
Title: *Device for the Separation of Plastic Cards*
USPTO Customer Account No.: 23598
Attorney Docket No.: 127.013

Dear Sir:

Enclosed in connection with the above-identified utility patent application are:

- the patent application, consisting of **12** pages of specification, **28** claims on **5** sheets, **8** Drawings on **3** sheets, and an Abstract on **1** sheet.
- a Preliminary Amendment (1) entering headings suggested by the USPTO, (2) amending the claims, without narrowing the claims and without adding new matter, to eliminate multiple dependencies and to otherwise place the application into conformance with U.S. practice. Please enter the Preliminary Amendment before determining the filing fees.

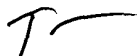
Document(s) to Follow:

- our check in the amount of \$1,064.00 which includes: 1) payment of the government filing fee for the filing of a new patent application as a **large** entity (\$750); 2) additional claims fee, including 8 claims in excess of 20 (\$144); 3) late filing of the Declaration (\$130), and 4) assignment recordation fee (\$40);
- an executed Declaration;
- an executed Assignment from the inventors, Mario Weinfurter, Richard Steif, and Johann Heigl, to Muehlbauer AG;
- an executed Appointment of Domestic Representative;

Director of the U.S. Patent
and Trademark Office
July 7, 2003
Page 2

- a certified copy of German Patent Application No. 102 30 365.7 filed July 5, 2002 for purposes of claiming priority.
- An Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


Timothy E. Newholm
Registration No. 34,400

Customer Account No.:



23598

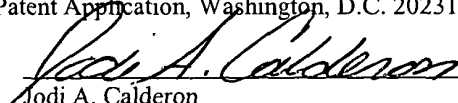
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Certification Under 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail Label No: **EV313038440US**

Date of Deposit: **July 7, 2003**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Jodi A. Calderon